

THE ALMA RECORD

HABCOCK & GROSSKOPF, Publishers

Published Every Thursday Afternoon at Alma, Gratiot County, Michigan

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION WHEN PAID IN ADVANCE
One copy, one year, \$1.50
One copy, three months, .50
One copy, six months, .75
Outside of State, one year, \$2.00

For advertising rates apply to schedule. Notice of church and lodge socials and entertainments where admission is charged, regular advertising rates. Obituary notices, 125 words free, over that, one cent per word. All obituary poetry, one cent per word. Classified ads, one cent per word each line, with a minimum price of 25 cents, cash in advance; claims accepted.

The Record is entered at the postoffice at Alma, Michigan, for transmission through the mail as second-class matter.

AS OTHERS SEE US

Bobbie Burns was very much to the point when he made the oft-quoted remark, "Oh would some power the giftie gie us, To see ourselves as ithers see us."

It is sometimes difficult for us to see our own faults, hear our own discords or smell our own disagreeable odors because we are so near to them and so familiar with them. It often becomes necessary for some one else to point out our faults and extol our virtues.

A great deal has been said and written about the Michigan senatorship, but a recent editorial in the Chicago Tribune, one of the greatest and best newspapers in America, gives the view of an intelligent, disinterested party which is worthy of our very careful consideration, and should make us thoughtful for the good name of our own state as well as the welfare of the nation.

The article follows in full:

"The bitter struggle now going on in Michigan over the nomination of a Republican candidate for the United States Senate should be a matter of national even more than of state interest.

"Locally it is a battle between Senator Townsend, with a record of nineteen consecutive years in congress, and Representative Kelley, whose chief claim is the support of Henry and Edsel Ford. Nationally it is a battle between a man responsible for such constructive action as the advancement of the St. Lawrence seaway and the national highway projects, on the one hand, and on the other the man responsible for the Eagle boat fiasco and River Rouge scandal, who now is seeking to obtain Muscle Shoals for private profit at a price which would take scores of millions of dollars from American taxpayers during the life of his proposed lease.

"Mr. Ford is seeking to put into the senate a friend who probably would not ask embarrassing questions about the \$29,000,000 war profits which the manufacturer's biographer says was returned to the government, but which was not. He is seeking to elect a friend who would give senatorial support to the purchase of Muscle Shoals plants at less than junk valuation. To accomplish this he tries to pin upon the constructive candidate responsibility for the senate's acceptance of Truman H. Newberry, who defeated Mr. Ford for the toga. If the Ford argument were applied successfully to the whole senate it would put the majority of that body on the street.

"Such is the issue of the campaign for publicity purposes, but in reality it is not the issue. The real issue is whether Mr. Ford can name a senator dependent upon him against a senator with such a constructive record as that of Townsend. If Michigan so prostrates itself at the feet of its richest inhabitant other states may be expected to feel the influence of his money, his vast business interests, and his great organization, with similar results. If that follows, the \$29,000,000 war profits, the profits accruing to him from the River Rouge development, and the millions of dollars to be derived from his Muscle Shoals program during the term of his proposed lease, might look like small change.

"The Michigan election is of national import."

BLOSSOM TIME

There are two seasons of the year which rival all the others, blossom time and early fall when the trees are decked in fall fruits and fall dresses of so many varied hues. But perhaps we must give the preference, when sheer beauty is in question, to May and blossom time. Indeed, the next two weeks will show us the acme of beauty to be found this season. An old plum tree stands just outside my window. It is scraggly and gnarled but all of its imperfections are covered now by a blanket of purest white, and the birds of many varied hues dart in and out of its branches all day long and gladden the hearts of passers-by with their exuberant songs of praise and joy. An old apple-tree, perchance, stands just outside your window. And it has put on a dress of the most delicate pink and white rivaling in beauty all the other trees around it. A cherry tree in green and white, a peach tree in glowing pink, blossoming shrubs in every tint from gleaming gold to flaming red, all are out in holiday array to celebrate the coming of spring. For spring is the season of hope. Ahead stretches the beautiful summer season with all its outdoor life and many pleasures. The full fruitage of the fall is promised in advance by the blossoms of spring. The birds, back from their long southern trips, and nesting again in the old familiar haunts, express their joy in many and varied songs. The wild wood animals, glad to be released from their winter prisons, are busy and happy. All nature rejoices and puts on gala attire to gladden the hearts of men.

And so we, too, this beautiful season of spring, should slough off our wintry doubts and fears, and take new courage and new inspiration from the beauty that surrounds us on all sides. We should go forth each morning to our daily tasks, glad of the chance to breathe the fresh air, to view the beauties of Nature, to live in a wonderful world which has been filled with so many things for our enjoyment and pleasure. For it is a good old world after all in which we live. And while so much is given us freely without money and without price, much in return is expected of us and we should be glad that this is so. Blossom time is filled with beauty, it is the time of hope and promise. And it should

SPRING IT

also inspire us all to do our best. If you have a new idea, spring it. This country has become great because its citizens have had the brains to produce ideas and the courage to work them out to fruition.

But don't expect to revolutionize the world with one blast. The world is older than we are. It will be here after we are gone and other brains will be producing ideas that are a hundred times better than ours.

Every big thing has a little beginning. Because the idea is good it grows and thrives and expands until it becomes great and of lasting benefit to many people.

It may be so with your idea, but it will not be so as long as you keep it bottled up.

Spring it.

Where Your Taxes Go

How Uncle Sam Spends Your Money in Conducting Your Business

By EDWARD G. LOWRY

Author "Washington Close-Ups," "Banks and Financial Matters," etc. Contributor Political and Economic Articles to Leading Periodicals and a Writer of Recognized Authority on the National Government's Business Methods.

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OUR COSTLY NEGLIGENCE

"Co-ordination" is a tired, haggard, nervous wreck of a word that was nearly worked to death at Washington during the early days of the war. It was the first of the dollar-a-year words to come forward to do war work, and it was worn to a frazzle. I hate to drag the poor word thing out from the quiet retreat in my dictionary where it has been resting and recuperating, but I must say that this lack of co-ordination, lack of organization, duplication, inefficiency, waste, and haphazard hodge-podge structure of the national governmental machine is no secret to those at Washington, who run and manage it for us, and who are even more directly responsible than we are for the condition into which it has fallen.

I submit pleas of avoidance and confession from both Democrats and Republicans. It is not a matter of politics. It is a matter of proved and confessed negligence on the part of the men we have hired to run the machine, and have kept your after year in place of trust and power and responsibility. They haven't kept up the plant. The form of organization is grotesquely inadequate. The morale of the working force is badly impaired, as I have set forth at length in previous articles. We have paid the price for this, grossly and lazily, in money and in poor service. This has been costly negligence on our part.

I said I had confessions. Here they are, Reed Smoot, Republican and a senator from Utah, speaking: "The administrative branches of the government have undergone no fundamental change since the organization was devised by Alexander Hamilton. No other government in the world could have gone on as ours has done, and paid the bills involved in our wasteful methods of administration. We have been able to do it because the country has had resources and wealth unparalleled. But the war has brought us at last to realize that these will not last always. We need a complete survey of the whole situation de novo by a committee of men willing to recognize that it is a task of day and night for a year, and very likely, two years."

There is needless duplication of work among different departments, and even in the same department. . . . It is the same through all the government functions, and now, when the burden of carrying our enormous debt is weighing on the people, we can no longer neglect to give it consideration.

When he said these things, Mr. Smoot was urging a concrete proposal to bring about the reformation so badly needed.

And now Franklin D. Roosevelt, for seven years assistant secretary of the navy and recently the Democratic candidate for vice president:

"The entire system of relationship which exists between congress and the executive departments is fundamentally wrong. Let me illustrate: I made an offer one spring to the appropriations committee of both house and senate, telling them that I would tomorrow discharge 15 per cent of the employees of the Navy department if they, the committees, would give me complete authority to take one-half of the salaries of the employees so discharged, and add it to the salary of the other 85 per cent of the employees still left in the department. . . . Of course, however, under the present system congress would not think of giving executive discretion of this kind."

Congress, for various reasons, has so tied the hands of the executive officers of the government that they have no discretion in the fundamental questions of employment. . . . My own wonder is that, considering the existing circumstances, the employees of the government are as efficient as they actually are. Congress legislates for every minute item of employment. . . . There is a lot of work being done in other departments which ought properly to be under the Navy department, and in the same way there is a lot of work done by the Navy department which could perfectly properly be transferred to other departments.

After seven years down here in an executive position, I cannot help the conclusion that our governmental methods are cumbersome and wasteful. The first improvement must come in what is, after all, the source of governmental activities—that is, the legislative branch. This must come from congress. We need also a reclassification and redistribution of the work of the executive departments. This can only come if congress, working in accord with itself and with the executives, will discuss the whole question simultaneously and not merely piecemeal.

Well, there you are! A Republican who has been in the legislative branch of the government for seventeen years, and a Democrat who has been in the executive branch for seven years, both telling the same story of how badly the national business is managed.

The odd thing about it is that our agents and representatives at Washington who let this waste and inefficiency run on, year after year, pay no penalty. We pay the piper to the tune of millions and billions—literally that much. And the condition will endure until we make a real roar about it. Congress increasingly shakes its head over the situation and brings in various proposals of reform, and says how wrong it all is; but lacking a lively, inflamed public pressure, nothing gets done.

The lives of several kinds of plants have been doubled by a Vienna botanist who has discovered ways to delay their blossoming and germination.

Marine Grass Found Valuable.

A marine grass found extensively in Japanese waters yields a fiber which, when mixed with cotton, both strengthens and cheapens thread usually made of the latter alone.

The Story of Our States

By JONATHAN BRACE

XXXIII.—OREGON



IT WAS the Spaniard who laid claim to the discovery of our Pacific coast. In 1543 Ferrello possibly sailed as far North as the Oregon boundary. In 1579 Sir Francis Drake explored for England the coast considerably north of this. Other Spaniards made further explorations and Captain Cook, the English navigator, in 1783 landed at Nootka Sound and gave it its name. Thus both Spain and England laid claim to this region.

The American rights to this territory were based on the discovery of the Columbia river in 1792 by Captain Robert Gray, who sailed from Boston in the ship Columbia to open up fur trade. Many American fur traders followed and in 1811 John Jacob Astor, the head of the Pacific Fur company, established a settlement called Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia.

The real opening of the Northwest was the result of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition.

By 1843 a decided flow of emigrants from the East travelled over the Oregon Trail from Kansas City to the Columbia river, and thus into Oregon. The trip over this route occupied about three months and the settlers generally travelled in large parties to withstand any possible attacks from Indians.

American settlers became so numerous that the United States actively laid claim to this region. Spain had been forced to withdraw any rights she may have had when Florida was ceded in 1810. This left England and America quarrelling over this section of the country. Final settlement, with definite boundaries between the United States and Canada, was made in 1846.

The Oregon territory was formed in 1848 and the State of Oregon was taken into the Union in 1859 with an area of 96,630 square miles.

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Weather and Crop Bulletin

WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT

Lansing, Mich. May 10, 1922.

The weather during the past week has been favorable for all crops and farm work. Showers were general Wednesday and Saturday and were beneficial. Rains are reported general again as this bulletin is being prepared. The temperature was moderate throughout the week, averaging about 7 degrees above normal. Sunshine was ample. All vegetation made rapid growth. Fruit trees are in full bloom in southern and central counties and buds are opening farther north. The prospects for a large crop of fruit of all kinds are excellent at this time as the trees are blossomed unusually full.

Oats and barley seeding is about completed, and that planted has germinated well. Preparations of ground for corn planting is well advanced. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are making good growth.

Highway-Weather Bulletin

The weather has been favorable for further improvements in road conditions during the past week. Showers were general on Wednesday and Saturday and they were again reported yesterday (Tuesday). No heavy rains have occurred, however, and road conditions are good to excellent in practically all sections. Resurfacing and construction work is starting in a number of places and detours are necessary on this account.

D. A. Seeley, Meteorologist.

Why That Lame Back?

That morning lameness—those sharp pains when bending or lifting, make work a burden and rest impossible. Don't be handicapped by a bad back—look to your kidneys. You will make no mistake by following this Alma resident's example.

Mrs. William Story, 505 River ave., says: "I was bothered with my back as sharp, darting pains seemed to go all through my back and I was in misery when I tried to work. My back was lame and sore and when I stooped or lifted anything, terrible pains caught me so I could hardly straighten. I had dizzy spells when spots came before my eyes and I suffered with headaches. My kidneys were so bad I was always tired and too weak to do my work but Doan's Kidney Pills brought out Murphy's Drug Store entirely cured me of the complaint."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Story had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.—50-2w

Ladies, get a box of the Social size Hammermill Bond Stationery, 250 sheets of paper with the same number of envelopes at the Record office.—advertisement

A SQUIB OR TWO

A central Michigan Contemporary says in a headline, "Sheriff Hoag takes Another Still." Any one might think that he is one to take the whole darn thing.

A New Cure Perhaps

A headline in the Clinton Republican says, "Burned Man is Full of Gratitude."

Our old friends Gibbs of the Isabella County Republican in an article, "How About It," which makes a plea for the Near East Relief, got his history slightly mixed when he said, "During the last massacre of the Americans a million Christian men and women were slaughtered by the Turks because they refused to renounce Christianity and become Mohammedans." Still right though. Bert is proving that the editors can get better for someone else than for themselves.

"20 Days for Stealing Wife," says a Mt. Pleasant Times headline. Easy. Most of us have to live with them for life.

Something New?

Something new has evidently been discovered by The Clinton Republican which announced in head type last week, "Start Work on Water Foundations Soon."

Want Her Joe?

Joe evidently would woo the fair maiden. An advertisement in our contemporary said, "Don't get married to one firm. Have your neat job printing done at the Alma Journal office." Durn him! Just for that we'll let you in on a secret. He's married too. Don't commit bigamy.

MOTHERS' DAY POEM

Gone to the spirit land,
The face and the form I knew,
Still the voice, vanished the hand,
And the kind heart so true.
Why mourn her loss today?
She speaks to us no more—
"Children its time to play,"
Then off to bed once more.

Gone—to Heaven above;
Stars are taken away
From the night, my own love,
And the sun from the day,
A cloud is in my heart;
There's no fun in the play
When we leave out her part.

Gone—the tender caress,
For her spirit has flown;
Also the goodnight kiss
And we are left alone
To put out the light there;
Silent to bed we creep,
Join with her in the prayer
"I lay me down to sleep."

Gone—love's lingering twilight—
E'er gone, doubts fill the soul;
The dawn dispels the night
Of dreadful dreams untrue,
Not dead, but alive yet,
Orb that lent light to another.
Living hope can't forget
Eternal life, God and mother.
Edward E. Shouffer.

Record Directory

FOR READY REFERENCE

President and Congress
President, Warren G. Harding, Ohio, salary \$75,000, with allowance for traveling expenses up to \$15,000 extra, and \$100,000 more for it to third salary; Vice President, Charles D. Hughes, N. Y., salary \$50,000, with allowance for traveling expenses—\$25,000 in all. (Subject to change)
Vice-President, Calvin Coolidge, Mass., salary \$12,000. President pro tem of senate, Albert B. Cummins, Iowa.
Speaker of House, Frederick H. Gillett of Mass., salary \$12,000. The 86 Senators and 435 Representatives of 67th congress receive \$7,500 salary each, with mileage extra at 20 cents a mile each way, each session, figured on distance between their homes and Washington; also \$125 extra for stationery, newspapers, etc. Each is also allowed \$3,500 a year for clerk hire. Ratio of representation, one member to each 211,817 population.
Party Division in 67th Congress: House 301 Rep., 133 Dem., 1 Soc. Senate 59 Rep., 37 Dem.

U. S. Senators—Chas. E. Townsend, Truman H. Newberry.
Representative in Congress—Joseph W. Fordney.

The Cabinet
Arranged in order of presidential succession: Sec'y State, Charles E. Hughes, N. Y.; Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, Pa.; War, John W. Weeks, Mass.; Atty-Gen., Harry M. Cummings, Ohio; Postmaster-Gen., Will H. Hays, Ind.; Sec'y Navy, Edwin Denby, Mich.; Interior, Albert B. Fall, N. Mex.; Agriculture, Henry C. Wallace, Iowa; Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover, Calif.; Labor, James J. Davis, Pa. Salary of each \$12,000.

The Supreme Court
Chief Justice, William Howard Taft, salary \$17,000. Associate Justices, salary, \$14,500 each; Jos. McKenna, Calif. (Ret.); Oliver W. Holmes, Mass. (Ret.); Wm. B. Duff, Ohio (Ret.); Willis VanDevanter, Wyo. (Ret.); Mahlon Pitney, N. J. (Ret.); James McReynolds, Tenn. (Dem.); Louis D. Brandeis, Mass. (Dem.); John H. Clarke, Ohio (Dem.)

Michigan Government
Governor, Alex. J. Groesbeck, salary, \$5,000. Lieut. Gov., Thomas Reed, salary, \$800.00; Secretary of State, Charles J. Deland, salary, \$2,500.00; State Treas., Frank E. Gorman, salary, \$2,500.00; Auditor Gen., Oramel B. Fuller, salary, \$2,500.00; Attorney Gen., Martin Wiley, salary \$2,500.00; Sup't of Public Instruction, Thomas E. Johnson, salary, \$4,000.00; State Highway Com., Frank J. Rourke, salary \$1,500.00; Senator of District, Avon Amon, salary \$500.00; Representative of District, David G. Locke, salary, \$500.00; Supreme Court Justice, salary \$1000.00; Joseph B. Moore, Joseph H. Steere, Howard Weist, Grant Fellows, John W. Shaw, Geo. M. Clark, John E. Bird, Nelson Sharp.

County Officers
County Judge, Edward J. Moinet, salary \$2,500.00; Judge of Probate, James G. Kress, salary, \$3,000.00; Sheriff, A. T. Wellert, salary, \$2,000.00; Coroner, John E. Reynolds, salary, \$1,500.00; Treas., Sidney Evey, salary, \$1,000.00; Prom. Atty., Romaine Clark, salary, \$2,000.00; Register of Deeds, Chas. Heidler, salary, \$1,500.00; School Com., Howard Potter, salary, \$1,000.00; Circuit Court Com., Archie McCall, Wm. A. Bahkle, fees; Drain Com., Ezra Laycock, salary \$1,500.00; Coroners, W. K. Ludwig, Dr. Hall, fees.

City Government
Mayor, Chas. E. Murray, salary, \$300.00. City Commissioners, John C. Chick, Floyd Glass, A. J. Archer, Philip Cresser, salary, \$200.00; City Manager, Wm. E. Reynolds, salary \$500.00; City Clerk, Francis C. Hayward, salary \$500.00; City Treasurer, D. W. Adams, salary, \$180.00; City Attorney, Wm. A. Bahkle, salary, \$1,200.00; Health Officer, Dr. John N. Day, salary, \$1,500.00; Chief of Police, James E. Campbell, salary \$17,500.00; Supervisors, 1st ward, James E. Fuller, 2nd ward, Nicholas E. Sand, 3rd ward, Albert P. Cook, 4th ward, Jacob D. Holman, salary, \$5.00 per day on actual time.

Buy Your Groceries in Elwell

Large Post Toasties per pkg.	12c	Best Rolled Oats, 7 lbs. for	25c
Large Kellogg's Corn Flakes, per pkg.	12c	Large Tall Pink Salmon	25c

We have a full line of new garden seeds.

Hilsinger Mercantile Company
ELWELL, MICH.

Connor's WORLD'S BEST ICE CREAM

A fresh clean milk supply and good equipment are essential to good ICE CREAM. All our "mix" is made in our wonderful plant just completed at a cost of \$100,000. It is located at Ovid in the heart of one of Michigan's finest dairy sections. A small ice cream factory can not afford the college trained experts or the laboratories and equipment necessary to make uniformly good ICE CREAM.

SPECIAL BRICK FOR NEXT WEEK Caramel and Lemon Sherbet

At our dealers in quarts and pints

C. A. Connor Ice Cream Co., Inc.
ALMA, MICH.

Phone 120

25% DISCOUNT ON ALL SUITS

Special line of Coats and Capes values up to \$29.50 at \$14.75

Store open Wednesday evenings with special sales during evening only

THE QUALITY SHOP

GRACE E. ROWELL
ITHACA HEMSTITCHING MICH.

Announcement

The Sawkins Piano Co.

wish to announce the formal opening of their new store at 208 East Superior Street on Saturday, May 13th.

5

Music

Afternoon and Evening

Dependable.

DODGE BROTHERS
MOTOR CAR



J. E. HALL
ALMA, MICH.